

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-11 and 15-17 are pending. Claims 1, 5, 7, and 8 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim a portion of the subject matter Applicants regard as their invention. No new matter has been added.

Objections to the Specification

The Abstract has been amended as suggested.

The brief description of drawings has been amended as suggested.

The number of SEQ ID NO:2 has been amended as suggested.

The blanks have been amended as suggested.

The primers used in Example 2 were designed after a large DNA fragment, including murF, had been sequenced. The murF gene cloned using the primers contains NdeI and BamHI sites at its two ends respectively, can thereby be easily inserted into various vectors.

Claim Objections

Claim 4 depends on claim 1 as amended.

Claims 5 and 7 have been amended as suggested.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 112

Claims 1-3 and 5-7 were rejected under 35 USC § 112, 2nd paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite.

Claim 1 has been amended so that the term “high stringency” has been deleted.

Claim 7 as amended depends on claim 1 as amended, which is drawn to *P. aeruginosa* MurF gene.

Claim 8 has been amended as suggested.

Claims 1-3 and 5-7 were rejected under 35 USC § 112, 1st paragraph, as allegedly lacking written description.

Claim 1 has been amended to be drawn to the polynucleotide encoding SEQ ID NO:2, and its complementary sequence.

Claims 1-3 and 5-7 were rejected under 35 USC § 112, 1st paragraph, as allegedly lacking enablement.

Claim 1 has been amended to be drawn to the polynucleotide encoding SEQ ID NO:2, and its complementary sequence.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

Claims 1-3 and 5-7 were rejected under 35 USC § 102 as allegedly being anticipated by Rubenfield *et al.*

Claim 1 has been amended to be drawn to the polynucleotide encoding SEQ ID NO:2, and its complementary sequence.

It is believed that no additional fee is required with this submission. However, should an additional fee be required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-2755.

Allowance of claims 1-11 and 15-17 is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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